



*"This is not the end. It is not even the beginning of the end.
But it is, perhaps, the end of the beginning."*

Sir Winston Churchill



What have we learned and what comes next?

- **Space can help the United States answer its national imperatives but only if we make space access affordable and safe by sustaining advances in technology and standardizing the space transportation industry.**

Future space capabilities will depend upon the technology advances we make today as a nation. Revolutionary reductions in the cost and time required to access space will not be realized without significant technological breakthroughs in ground processing, launch operations, and air traffic control/range operation systems. Developing standardized processes and interfaces, as airports did, and applying them to emerging spaceports will reduce costs and increase the ratio of flight time to ground processing time.

- **We can make this happen by educating our citizens about the benefits that can be derived from space and committing the national investment necessary to develop a commercial, self-sufficient space transportation enterprise.**

What ASTWG has developed in the last two years is a national consortium for spaceport technology, in and of itself a more valuable asset than the reports and recommendations it produces. As the nation looks to the future for technology and policy on issues concerning spaceports and ranges, ASTWG is poised to offer information and advice, a comprehensive perspective and continuing forum, and consensus for the path we should take. From the forefront of emerging technologies and developing spaceport architectures, ASTWG will track and help guide our progress and encourage the United States government and its citizens to devote the vision and resources needed to allow space and its benefits to improve our everyday lives.

By investing today, the space sector of the transportation system can become the next evolutionary step to bringing the world closer together. Developing a flourishing space enterprise is not something that the United States can do for her citizens, rather is it something the citizens of this great nation must do for her.

